

DELUGE DOESN'T DISTURB DUNHAMS

1994 W. MONROE REUNION REPORT

by Bill Wood

Sunday, August 14th was the date of the 95th Annual Dunham Reunion up on the north shore of Oneida Lake. About 3 inches of rain in the morning negated using the West Monroe Municipal Park, & President Dave Hoyt turned all of the "Dunham Reunion" arrows to point to the Methodist Church, while he wondered if ANYONE would show up on such a miserable day. Not to worry! By the noon starting time 65 folks, from as far away as Clearwater, Florida, were on hand for dispensing the variety of hamburgers, hot dogs, & bushels of covered dishes. (Nobody cooks better than a Dunham lady!) One great surprise to the group was the arrival of George Rogers of Fairview Village, PA & his niece Jo Ann Butler, daughter of Carrie Butler (recently missing, but now located). Carrie lives in Fulton, NY, just a few miles away. At the business meeting we had some interesting proposals, one of which is the formation of a "National Dunham Network" by locating the presidents, genealogists, &/or secretaries of other reunions (a few already known), & sending them (& all of our group heads of families) a newsletter about CHristmastime. Our group's newsletter would be based on the minutes of our August meeting (vital records for the past year, family stories related, list of attendees, queries, etc.). This newsletter would also include a "coupon" to be sent to our Secretary by August 1st for "probable attendees" for the next Second Sunday in August meeting, to give the committee a feel for the the food requirements that they need. The Network would get everyone more genealogists.

This seems like a great idea. It might even generate a few more regional Dunham Reunions. The fact that this year saw the 95th gathering of this branch of the Dunham family is a significant achievement. We doubt that ANY family could match that record!

THE MAKING OF A GENEALOGIST Also from Bill Wood (& appearing on p. 2) DD has a newspaper clipping regarding the death of his grandfather, Henry Alpheus Dunham (1872-1946)(9)(Deacon John 1, Joseph 2, Nathaniel 3, Isaac 4, Calvin 5, Alpheus 6, Alpheus 7, George W. 8), plus a photo of Henry, taken ca. 1945. Bill relates that his Grandpa Henry initiated his grandchildren in genealogy with regular Sunday afternoon drives in his new 1927 Buick, through the back roads of Montgomery & adjacent counties, where he invariably found remote family grave-stones. Then he would write down his findings in an ever-present notebook. Henry Dunham devoted the last quarter century of his life to researching his & his wife's ancestry. Thus the kids were indoctrinated in family history, & it Bill's case, it certainly "took." Bill recalls that at age 13, he accompanied Grandpa Henry to the 34th annual Dunham reunion on the north shore of Oneida Lake. Then 35 years after the grandfather's death, Bill's sister, Marion Graham, brought Bill 2 overflowing bushel baskets of Henry's old genealogical (to p 2)

Many Pay Final Tribute To Late Henry A. Dunham

The funeral of Henry A. Dunham was held Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the funeral home of Merriam & Waterstreet, the Rev. Dr. Frank T. Rhoad officiating.

Among the large number of floral tributes were pieces from the following: Men's Fellowship of the Second Presbyterian Church, Amsterdam Real Estate Board, Amsterdam Insurance Underwriters, Oriental Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., Sigma Bodies, Scottish Rite, Royal Arch Masons, Holy Cross Commandery, Artisan Lodge, 84, F. and A. M., Welcome Lodge, 829, F. and A. M., Masonic Association, Masonic Pinocchio Club, Prudential Insurance, office boys of J. L. Willson & Son and Amsterdam Shrine Club.

Honorary bearers were Amos Hill, Edward O. Bartlett, Willson P. Herrick, John F. Hillyer, Sherman McNeil, James R. Kelton, Charles Markes, Kuno B. Schotte and Marvin S. Jackson. Active bearers were Edward C. Devendorf, H. Wallace Smeallie, Frank H. Gill, Earl O. Stowitts, Harry P. McNeil and Harold Gibson. Interment was in Fair View Cemetery.

The Amsterdam Real Estate Board and Amsterdam Insurance Agents' Association attended the funeral in a body and Artisan Lodge, 84, F. and A. M., was represented by a large delegation.

Members of Artisan Lodge, 84, as well as many members of Welcome Lodge, 829, and sojourning Masons visited the funeral home Thursday night at 8 o'clock to pay their respects to Mr. Dunham.

Those from out of town who attended the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. W. R. C. Welch, Miss Elizabeth Wood, Miss Marion Wood, Miss Barbara Wood, West Medford, Mass.; William J. Wood, Massena, N. Y.; Mrs. Frank Baker, Ocean City, Md.; El Ralph Dennison, Rochester; Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Hayes, Utica; Dr. and Mrs. H. Ward Keator, Kingston; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stickels, Pittsfield, Mass.; Mr. and Mrs. Sherman McNeil, Wells; Lawrence McDonald and Walter Viewig, Albany.



MAKING OF A GENE-
ALOGIST (from p 1)
papers from the
attic of the house
that was then to
be sold. Fortu-
nately, Bill had
just retired after
35 years with
General Electric,
so he was free to
take over where
his grandfather
had left off.
This story does
any genealogist's
heart good. We
shudder to think
what might have
happened if Marion
had not known
exactly where to
deliver those bu-
shel baskets of
records!

A REAL MYSTERY

From Karen Hill,
Half Moon Bay, CA, we have a true mystery letter:
with no date, no salutation, no signature--not even
the entirety of the letter itself! Nonetheless, it
has some interesting content, & it intrigues be-
cause of the hints it provides regarding the mis-
sing information. Perhaps someone can do a better
job of cracking this puzzle: "...My dear grand-
mother Mary ((Mary Matilda "Polly" Wilkinson Dun-
ham (1813-1902))) & too young children. This grand-
father ((Dr. Nelson Dunham (1803-1866))(7)(Deacon
John 1, Joseph 2, Eleazer 3, Israel 4, Ebenezer 5,
Sylvanus 6))) was a member of the 1st legislature
held in Michigan. He was a man of intelligence &
honor. He died when your grandfather was 17 & the
only living child. It is through this ancestry

that I am a member of the D.A.R., for his father, Sylvanus, served in
the war (1776) & married the daughter of his captain, Capt. Wright.
So your sons come down through 2 ancestors. This may mean something
to them, depending on where they are living when they are "out for
themselves." When I was east 2 years ago Kim was in southern Michigan
I spent a few days with them, just out of Detroit, & he took me to
Petersburg to the Borgmeiers (??). Out of Dundee we stopped at the
cemetery & found the Dunham lot where his great great ancestors lay, &
also in Petersburg where YOUR grandfather, Norman Curtis Dunham & your
grandmother Delia (also Arvilla & Fannie). I am telling you all of
this for some time you may want to become a Son of the Revolution, not
a bad idea for the sake of..... Saw a picture of a little girl in
the SUNDAY TIME whose name is Adelia Mary -- Mary for my grandmother
Dunham (Edward) & Adelia for your grandmother Dunham. (to page 3)

REAL MYSTERY (cont'd. from p. 2) Am not an expert on genealogical charts, but shall make a not too good trial, so here goes:

NELSON DUNHAM, M.D. -married- POLLY MATILDA WILKINSON

Children: 1. Nelson (died at age 3)
2. Matilda (died at age 10)
3. NORMAN CURTIS -married- PRUDENCE ADELIA ELLIS
Children: 1. FRED
2. FANNIE
3. MARY ADELIA
4. ARVILLA"

Although the writer's chart does not show it, Arvilla's married name was SWINTON, Mary Adelia's was SHANRAHAN, & Fannie's was LANTZ. Our information states that Fred (1870-1956), a resident of Pontiac, MI, had 4 daughters, but no sons. The letter was written by a granddaughter of Dr. Nelson Dunham (1803-1866), which would make her a daughter of Norman Curtis Dunham (1848-1927): Either Mary Adelia Dunham Shanrahan or Fannie Jane Dunham Lantz. It was addressed to a grandson of Norman Curtis Dunham, but WHO was he? Who were the potential members of the Sons of the Revolution? Any assistance in unraveling this puzzle will be much appreciated!



NAMED "IVY ACRES," this Kalamazoo County, MI, home once belonged to Hartwell Dunham (1822-1898), who may have been the son of David Dunham (1775-1865). Dunhams abound -- or once did -- in this area of northern Kalamazoo County & Cooper, MI. Hartwell's daughter Amelia married Albert Seneca Dunham, son of Edward (1753-1844). There was also a Silas Dunham who lived there. Still, these Dunhams have not divulged their connection to the total Dunham picture in America. The photo of this lovely home shows the way it looked in 1988, & it comes to DD from Betty Brown, Littleton, Colorado.

DUNHAM DISPATCH
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"FALLS PARK MAY SEE A RESTAURANT"

This was the headline proclaimed in the Business Section of the August 3, 1993 ARGUS LEADER of Sioux Falls, S.D. (too large a banner for DD's pages), sent in by Marilyn Roth. It appears that the Dunham Company is the power behind this project, but we don't know what Dunhams these may be.

A \$750,000-plan is being considered

By ANNE-MARIE OTEY

Argus Leader Staff

Diners could be eating steaks and pasta at Falls Park next year if a real estate company gets city approval to build a restaurant there.

The Dunham Company submitted a proposal Monday to make a restaurant out of the

former Northern States Power hydro-power plant in the center of Falls Park.

"I think what interests us is the overall plan to improve Falls Park, to make it into a major destination point for the city park system," said Mike Crane, vice president of business development at Dunham.

Crane said the project will cost more than \$750,000, with most of the money going for renovation of the historic 1908 building. "It's

bare walls in there," he said.

The city would continue to own the building and the developer would lease the facility.

Dunham was the only company to submit a proposal. The city asked for proposals two months ago, with an Aug. 1 deadline to submit them. Dunham suggested to the city last year that it put a restaurant in the building.

Crane said the restaurant could open by next summer if the city adds amenities like parking and

better access to the park from Weber Avenue. Those and other improvements are part of a \$2.6 million city master plan to upgrade the park. Crane said the restaurant's opening may be delayed if facilities aren't in place.

Crane said the restaurant will be casual and open to people biking or strolling through the park as well as those who come specifically to eat out.

He said the renovation would include a new deck, and would

respect the building's historic character. "We would intend to restore the facade," Crane said. "There are places where the windows are bricked in. We would return the openings to their original appearance."

The city parks board will consider the proposal at its meeting next Tuesday. Lowen Schuett, director of parks and recreation, would not comment on the plan, saying it has not yet been presented publicly.

Miss Ruby Dunham

Miss Ruby B. Dunham, 90, of 811 Powers St., died Saturday at 8:20 p.m. at Mercy Medical Center. She had been hospitalized 10 days.

She was born in Oshkosh on Sept. 19, 1883, daughter of James W. and Emma Dunham.

Miss Dunham was a member of Wesley United Methodist Church, Friendship Circle of the church and Wesley Methodist Women. She also was a member of the Women's Reading Club, local chapter of American Association of Retired Persons and Evergreen Manor Auxiliary.

Surviving are one sister, Mrs. N. H. (Stella) Christensen, Rochester, Minn.; and three brothers, Alton F. and Rex Dunham, Oshkosh, and Dio Dunham, Detroit, Mich.

Services will be held Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. at Seefeld-Ruminski Church Avenue Chapel, with the Rev. James Vahey, pastor of Wesley Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery.

Friends may call at the Church Avenue Chapel today from 6-9 p.m.

AT LEFT - From the Oshkosh, WI NORTHWESTERN, this December 1, 1973 obituary pertains to Ruby Dunham (1883-1973)(10)(Deacon John 1, Joseph 2, Micaiah 3, Micaiah 4, Joseph 5, Benjamin 6, Robert 7, Ephraim 8, James W. 9). It comes to DD from Bob Dunham, Madison, WI.

PLEASE DON'T NEGLECT TO SEND IN ANY MILITARY PICTURES. The plan is to use them in the next issue of DUNHAM DISPATCH, though at this point we can't say with any certainty when that issue will come out. PSK.

1994 REUNION SCENES

Special thanks go out to Ann Eldred, Verona, NY, who took the trouble to load her camera with black-&-white film, so that the photos would turn out better when reproduced in DD. However, Ann reports that she couldn't get the people to collect themselves for an entire-group shot ---Perhaps, at this point, they had all eaten too much to move around!

